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## PROFESSOR LANGDELL—HIS PERSONAL INFLUENCE.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS LANGDELL—How fond we were of you, our great teacher, our wise and patient friend! You directed our undirected steps. You took us to the original sources of the law and kept us there. You taught us that in law, no less than in any other science, there is no substitute for accurate, painstaking original research.

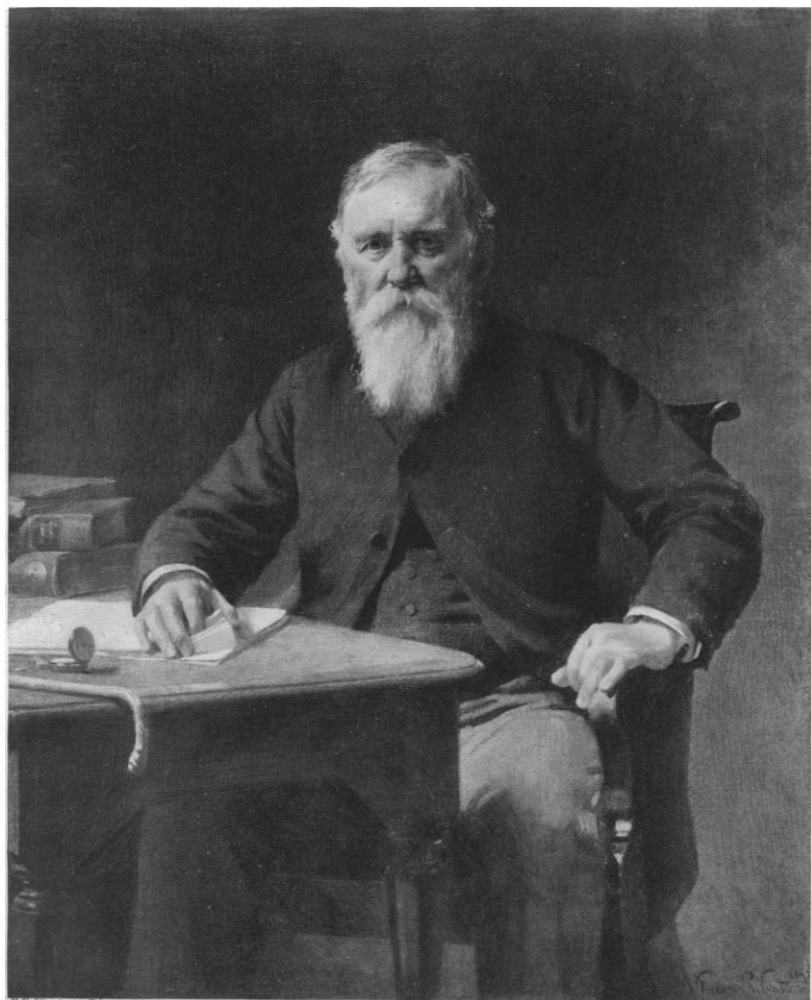
Your coming to Cambridge, early in 1870, was unheralded and at first almost unknown to the school at large. As we look back upon those days before your regular teaching had begun, when, by some happy chance, it was borne in upon a very few that a great teacher had come among us and we were led to seek you out, our hearts are glad and we are grateful.

We were drawn to you at first by no display of learning, — for you were ever incorrigibly modest, — but by your simple, unaffected friendliness when we sought your aid. You filled us with faith in yourself and with courage to tread the true path, no matter what the effort. So close was our friendship and so personal your leadership that we are inclined to wonder whether, after all, the question is not so much what we study as with whom we study. You taught us something more than to study law at the sources of the law. Like every great investigator who follows a path where “one walks abreast in a century,” your daily work led us to “plant patience in the garden of the soul.” It seems sometimes as if that were your greatest gift to those who in the early days worked with you, without much encouragement from any, and with much good-natured ridicule from many who could see nothing in your teaching beyond what they called the study of isolated cases.

Your whole nature led you to an unremitting quest after the governing principle in every new set of facts. You drew us with you in this daily search, and taught us not to rest content until we had found for ourselves the governing principles of the law. Who can estimate how much we owe, not merely to your instruction, which never suggested the pedagogue, but to that gentle influence which came to us as an emanation?

We were with you when you were laying the foundations of a great temple in which your memory is enshrined. If, as we believe, those foundations are to endure, it is not only because you who laid them were a great master and brought a great intellect to the teaching to which you devoted your life, but because over and above all you were one of the wise-hearted men of your time.

*Austen G. Fox.*



F. P. Vinton, Penn.

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L. C. Langelle